

Urban District Council
of Ulverston.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
Medical Officer of Health.



YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31st, 1913.

ULVERSTON :
FLETCHER & ROBINSON, QUEEN STREET.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Urban
District Council of Ulverston.*

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health.

ULVERSTON,

March, 1914.

GENTLEMEN,

In accordance with the order of the Local Government Board, it is my duty to present to you an Annual Report, which shall deal with the sanitary condition of the district, the incidence of infectious disease, and the vital statistics for the year.

INSPECTION OF DISTRICT.—I am satisfied that the district is kept under close supervision. Inspections are made, on complaint of any nuisance, or on the outbreak of infectious disease, but in addition to these special inspections, regular systematic inspection is carried out.

SANITARY CONDITION AND PROGRESS.—
WATER SUPPLY.—In spite of the dry summer experienced, a constant supply of water was maintained throughout the year, and I have every reason to believe that the quality of the water has always been above suspicion, as an evidence of this I append hereto analyses of samples taken in the years 1911 and 1912, and submitted to the County Analyst

Samples received by County
Analyst of 8th November,
1911.

Sample received by County
Analyst 27th February,
1912.

Mark and denomination of the Sample	No. 1. none	No. 2. none	No. 3. none	none
Total Solid matter } in solution.	10·8	10·4	9·6	9·8
Oxygen required } to Oxidise } in 15 min.	·061	·042	·033	·039
} in 3 hours	·041	·005	·002	·084
Ammonia	·005	·005	·002	·002
Ammonia from } Organic matter }	·014	·007	·002	·006
Nitrogenous Nitrates } and Nitrites }	none	none	none	none
Combined Chlorine	1·57	1·50	1·55	1·6

INFERENCE.—Samples 2 and 3 quite good, and of excellent quality for drinking and domestic use—No. 1 not quite so good, and contains a good deal of organic life.

INFERENCE.—Sample received February 27th, 1912. The water was clear and faintly yellow, it contains a trace of suspended matter, including cotton and linen fibres, wheat starch and a few living organisms. Water good and fit for drinking purposes, but the microscopical examination shows that extraneous dirt of various kinds has gained access to the sample. This probably arises from the water being collected in an unsuitable bottle.

The Manager of the Water Works informs me that there are two filter beds which are capable of passing through them 600,000 gallons a day each, but it was found that there was a considerable loss through leakage; to remedy this defect, the filter beds have been lined with bituminous sheeting, and this has been covered with 9-inches of concrete on the sides of the filters, and 6-inches on the floors; during the progress of this work it was, of course, necessary to remove the whole of the filtering material and the opportunity was taken of thoroughly washing the old, and making up for the consequent loss by providing new material.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.—In May last, your Surveyor, presented to the Health Committee, a very carefully prepared, and exhaustive report, upon the sewerage system of the town, the outcome of which was, that he was instructed to prepare plans, and submit estimates of a scheme which would remedy those conditions which give rise to the flooding of the sewers in Chapel Street, The Ellers, Lund Road, and South Ulverston.

In due course, plans and estimates were presented, and these are now receiving the attention of the Local Government Board.

The Surveyor's plan is to construct a relief sewer, 15-inches in diameter, from the point where the flooding arises in Chapel Street to the new settling tanks in Morecambe Road. In the Ellers a new 21-inch outfall sewer is being provided to replace the existing 15-inch outfall sewer, which has been proved to be inadequate, this discharges into new settling and storm water tanks in Morecambe Road. The dangerous nuisance which occurred in the South Ulverston district, when the sewage was held back by the incoming tide, will be remedied by the provision of a pumping station and storage tanks, whereby it will be possible to store the sewage during high tide and discharge it on the ebb, thus securing the sewers from tidal influence. I must compliment the Health Committee upon the very broad minded spirit in which they have approached this question, which will undoubtedly entail a considerable charge upon the rates, but will be of lasting benefit to the Ratepayers.

NEW SEWER.—A new 9-inch sewer, has been constructed in Watery Lane to receive the drainage of 22 new dwellings erected by the Swarthmoor and Ulverston Co-operative Society.

REFUSE DISPOSAL.—This important department of sanitary administration receives very careful attention, the house refuse being regularly collected and deposited at the tip at Low Mill. As I have intimated, in previous reports, the available space for tipping at the present dépôt is rapidly being exhausted, and the question of finding a new one is engaging the attention of the Authority, who are negotiating for a site.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.—I can only repeat what I have stated in former reports, and that is, that the slaughter houses are regularly inspected, and are probably as satisfactory as their structural condition and position will allow.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.—The Common Lodging Houses receive regular attention from your officials, and generally speaking, may be said to be quite satisfactory.

DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.—The Dairies and Cowsheds in your district are inspected each month, and the reports thereon as presented to the Health Committee, are generally fairly satisfactory, but it has to be remembered that the Inspector is not speaking, in these reports, as to the sufficiency of the cubic space allowed for each animal, or the sufficiency of light and ventilation, but more as to their cleanliness, quite apart from the larger question as to whether or not the sheds are in themselves satisfactory. I find from returns, with which the Inspector, has furnished me, that the cubic capacity per animal allowed is as follows:—

1	under	250	feet.
2	„	300	„
8	„	350	„
7	„	400	„
5	„	450	„
3	„	500	„
5	over	500	„

The Local Government Board's Model Bye-laws suggest that where cattle are in the open air for a certain portion of each day, that a minimum allowance of 600 feet per animal should be the rule, but looking at the above figures one is

bound to admit that to fulfil such requirements, either a very large reduction of the animals kept would have to be imposed, or otherwise the cowsheds would need to be entirely reconstructed, and whilst I am aware that the Health Committee is anxious to ensure the production of a pure milk supply for the inhabitants, the problem of providing for this under the present uncertain state of the law is almost beyond solution, and until the Legislature makes up its mind as to its requirements things must drift on as at present.

COMMON YARDS.—Several yards which are common to more than one house have received attention during the year, one in Stanley Street, The Gill, has been laid in tar macadam, two in Burlington Street have been laid in bricks and concreted, five in Tyson Square have been concreted.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Rateable value of the Councils' District.

	£	s.	d.
For Poor Rate	50,548	10	0
For General District Rate ...	39,995	2	6

Population (Enumerated 1911) 9,552

„ („ 1901) 10,060

The population consists of:—

Males	4,506
Females	5,046

Total 9,552

The population of the various Wards into which the district is divided is as under:—

	Males.	Females	Totals.
North Ward ...	1076	1178	2248
South Ward ...	888	1030	1848
East Ward ...	1019	956	1975
West Ward ...	998	1097	2085
Central Ward ...	611	785	1396
Totals	<u>4506</u>	<u>5046</u>	<u>9552</u>

I think it will be quite safe to base the calculations which arise on the following pages on the figures given above, although it is possible there may be some small increase in the population.

BIRTHS.—During the year 1913 I find that 199 births have been registered which is equal to a birth-rate of 20·6 per 1000, in the year 1912 there were 224 births registered equal to a birth-rate of 23·4 per 1000.

			1913	1912
In the first quarter of the year there were			46	63
Do. second	do.	do.	49	54
Do. third	do.	do.	44	49
Do. fourth	do.	do.	60	58
		Totals	<u>199</u>	<u>224</u>

There were 97 Male Children born and 102 female.

There were 9 Illegitimate Births.

DEATHS.—I find that there have been 163 deaths, which produces a death-rate of 17·0 per 1000. In the year 1912 there were 136 deaths producing a death-rate of 14·2 per 1000. The actual number of deaths occurring in the district was 183, the death-rate being 19·1 per 1000, but 31 deaths have occurred in the district of non-residents, and 11 residents of the district, have died outside the district.

			1913	1912
In the first quarter of the year there were			46	40
Do. second	do.	do.	49	31
Do. third	do.	do.	40	33
Do. fourth	do.	do.	28	32
		Totals	<u>163</u>	<u>136</u>

There has been 1 death of an illegitimate infant.

There have been 83 deaths in Males and 80 in Females.

Tabulated according to the different Wards in which they arose, I find the deaths as under :—

	1912	1912	1913	1913	
	Deaths.	Death-rate.	Deaths.	Death-rate.	
North Ward	24	10·1	36	16·0	per 1000
South Ward	28	15·1	37	20·0	do.
East Ward	33	16·7	40	20·2	do.
West Ward	33	15·8	24	11·5	do.
Central Ward	18	12·8	26	18·6	do.
	136	14·2	163	17·0	do.

DISEASES OF RESPIRATORY ORGANS.

Amongst diseases of this type, I include Bronchitis, Pneumonia and Pleurisy, leaving Phthisis or Consumption of the Lungs to be dealt with separately. I find that from Respiratory Diseases there have been 25 deaths,—15 from Bronchitis, and 10 from Pneumonia. This is equal to a death-rate, from diseases of this class, of 15·3 per cent of the deaths from all causes.

PHTHISIS.—From Phthisis, alone, there have been 7 deaths, equal to a death-rate of 3·6 per cent of the deaths from all causes.

CANCER.—It may be of interest to know the number of deaths that have arisen from Cancerous Diseases of various kinds, and I find that there have been 11 deaths from diseases of this type, equal to a death-rate of 6·7 per cent. of the deaths from other causes.

INFANTILE AND SENILE DEATHS.

In infants under one year of age, there have been 26 deaths, which produces an infantile death-rate of 130·6 per 1000 births. In the year 1912, there were 11 infantile deaths, giving a death-rate at this age period of 49·1 per 1000 births. It will be observed that the death-rate in infants is very much higher than last year.

In persons over 65 years of age, there have been 56 deaths, as compared with 57 in the previous year.

ZYMOTIC DEATHS.

From diseases included in this classification, there have been 14 deaths, equal to a zymotic death-rate of 1.46 per 1000. In the year 1912, there were 4 deaths from diseases of this type, equal to a death-rate of 0.41 per 1000. The deaths this year have arisen from Measles 3, and Diarrhœa 1.

	1913	1912	1911	1910	1909	1908	1907	1906	1905	1904	1903	1902	Totals
Measles ..	3	..	..	4	..	2	3	..	1	..	2	..	18
Whooping Cough..	..	..	5	..	..	..	3	3	..	..	..	10	21
Typhoid Fever ..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	2	..	1	1	5
Diarrhœa ..	11	2	15	5	1	1	1	11	5	5	6	1	72
Scarlet Fever ..	..	2	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	1	1	1	7
Diphtheria ..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	1	8	5	13	29
Totals	14	4	20	9	3	14	11	14	9	14	15	13	153

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.—

Whereas in the year 1912 I had to report the receipt of 161 certificates notifying cases of infectious disease, this year, I have only received 27 notifications and 10 of these have been cases of Erysipelas, a very gratifying decrease, but it is not wise to speak in too sanguine a tone on this point, because one must remember that with the pretty wide spread epidemic of Scarlet Fever in 1912 a great many of the susceptible children would be rendered immune from subsequent attack, and that with the growth of another susceptible child population there will be an increasing liability to renewed outbreaks.

Decrease in number of notifications very satisfactory, but not more to be boastful, had epidemic in 1912, and as Scarlet Fever attacks children between the ages of 5 & 15 it is always possible to have another outbreak

Table showing the number of Notifications during the last twelve years

Year	Typh'd Fever	Diph- theria	Scarlet Fever	Puerp'l Fever	Erysip- elas	Small Pox	Phthisis	Ant-Polio- myelitis	Totals
1902	3	111	101	..	16	..	..	..	231
1903	..	96	83	..	7	1	..	..	187
1904	3	72	22	2	16	..	..	..	115
1905	9	5	17	..	8	..	..	..	39
1906	2	2	4	1	1	..	..	..	10
1907	..	1	5	1	1	..	..	..	8
1908	..	4	5	..	1	..	..	..	10
1909	1	3	15	..	3	..	..	..	22
1910	1	9	9	..	..	..	..	..	19
1911	1	10	48	..	5	..	..	..	64
1912	..	5	143	..	5	..	7	1	161
1913	1	..	15	..	10	..	14	1	<u>41</u>
Totals	21	318	467	4	73	1	21	2	917

TABULATED ACCORDING TO THE WARDS IN WHICH THE CASES FOR THE YEAR AROSE.

	Diph- theria	Scarlet Fever	Erysip- elas	Phthisis	Ant-Polio- myelitis	Typhoid Fever	Totals
North Ward..	..	1	..	1	..	..	2
South Ward..	..	3	2	1	..	..	6
East Ward	6	1	5	..	1	13
West Ward	6	6	1	..	12
Central Ward	..	5	1	1	1	..	8
Totals	15	10	14	2	1	41

when a fresh generation of susceptible children grows up.

TYPHOID FEVER.—This occurred in Lund Road, in October, the sufferer being a girl 20 years old, the case was a very mild one, not to say doubtful, but an examination of the premises revealed many sanitary defects, which will be remedied.

SCARLET FEVER.—Only 15 cases of Scarlet Fever have been notified, and the disease never appeared in an epidemic form.

MEASLES.—The prevalence of Measles in the month of April, made it necessary to close the Church Walk Schools, and the Infants' School Department of the Dale Street School.

I must not conclude my report without thanking my colleagues for their valuable assistance at all times.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

G. H. Patterson,

L.R.C.P., LOND., M.R.C.S., ENG., D.P.H., LOND., & L.S.A.,

Medical Officer of Health.

7th of April, 1914.

*Surveyors report shows a year of very
excellent progress*

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Summary of Work, as furnished by the Sanitary Inspector:

NUISANCES.

No. of complaints entered in Journal	...	68.
do. Statutory notices served	... ..	11.
do. Intimations given	... ..	113.
do. Nuisances unabated	... ..	2.

CLASSIFICATION OF NUISANCES.

Houses with insanitary and insufficient refuse accommodation.
43 houses and 1 school. Result, 41 bins provided.

Insanitary and defective water closets.

Premises affected, 22. Result, 15 put in order, 3
new pans fixed, 3 new W.C's. provided.

Stoppage of house drains.

Premises affected, 7. All cleared.

Insufficient closet accommodation.

Premises affected, 35. Result, 21 privies abolished
and 23 new W.C's. provided.

Accumulations of manure, filth, &c.

No. of cases, 3. Nuisances abated by removal of
manure, &c.

Animals and poultry kept so as to cause a nuisance.

No. of cases, 2. Result, animals and poultry
removed

Defective yard paving.

No. of cases, 2. Yards repaved.

Overcrowding or uncleanly condition of dwelling-houses.

No. of cases, 2. Result, nuisances abated.

INSPECTION OF NEW BUILDINGS,

All new buildings are inspected as the work proceeds,
and the drains are tested with water before the trench is
filled in, and again with smoke before the certificate of
fitness is given. Forty-five letters were sent in connection with
this branch of the Inspector's duties.

INSPECTION OF PRIVATE DRAINS.

Re-drainage of property owing to serious defects. —4 inspections

Minor cases of re-drainage owing to defects.—10 inspections.

New W.C. connections for old property.—27 inspections.

Drainage systems of new houses.—70 inspections.

HOUSING, TOWN PLANNING, &c., 1909.

No. of houses inspected, 90.

No. found defective, 82

Premises in respect of which statutory notices were served, 81. Premises in respect of which letters were sent, 1.

No of letters sent in connection with the work, 28.

CLASSIFICATION OF DEFECTS.

VENTILATION OF ROOMS, including alterations of existing windows and provision of new windows, 69 cases.

DRAINAGE, including provision of new W.C's., and repairing and renewing drains where necessary, 45 cases.

FLOORS, of living rooms, sculleries, and wash-houses, 13 cases.

ROOFS, including slating, defective gutters, and down-spouts, 12 cases.

WALLS, dampness due to various causes, 5 cases.

YARDS, defective paving over whole or part area, 40 cases.

REFUSE STORAGE, insanitary, insufficient, defective construction or condition of receptacles, 26 cases.

One dwelling house has been closed without an order being issued, and three dwelling houses have been demolished by the owner.

RESULTS OF ACTION TAKEN.

No. of new W.C's. erected, 6.

No. of privies converted, 1.

No. of new privies erected, (Rosside and Next Ness), 6.

No. of new bins provided, 10.

The other defects, windows, etc., have been remedied in almost all cases, and where not already executed the required works have been commenced.

The large proportion of defective houses among those inspected is explained by the fact that the worst property is being inspected first.

It has been found that nothing is gained by increasing the rate of inspection owing to the difficulty of getting builders to execute the required works. To increase the number of inspections, unduly, would merely result in a list of defective houses, the defects of which could not be remedied for months after the date of inspection.

In order to carry out the Act in a proper manner the defects should not only be noted when the house is inspected, but the property should be visited at frequent intervals after the statutory notice has been served, to see if the required works have been carried out; consequently when making inspections, the facilities the owners have of getting the works carried out, must of necessity be borne in mind.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

Number of slaughter-houses on register, 8.

The slaughter-houses are frequently inspected and are usually found to be clean and well looked after. On the few occasions I have had reason to complain of any neglect, the tenant has attended to the matter immediately.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

Number of common lodging-houses on register, 3.

During the year the lodging-houses have been visited many times, and have usually been found to be kept in a clean condition. Any complaints made have been attended to immediately.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

The number of factories and workshops on the register is as follows : —

Factories	...	...	44
Workshops	...	...	75
			<hr/>
			119

3 new W.C's. have been provided at two factories, (aerated water factory, 2, sauce factory, 1), and minor defects remedied in several workshops.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND DISINFECTION OF INFECTED PREMISES.

No. of cases of infectious disease inquired into...	...	17
Do. dwelling houses disinfected after Scarlet Fever,		15
Do. do. do. Diphtheria, ...		
Do. do. do. Poliomyelitis ...		1
Do. do. do. Typhoid Fever		1
Do. do. do. for other reasons,		7

REMOVAL OF NIGHTSOIL AND CLEANSING OF ASHPITS.

The ashpits, privies, dustbins &c., are emptied systematically, and records kept of the work done.

The following is a summary of the year's work :—

No. of dustbins emptied,	...	...	71,250
Do. ashpits emptied...	...	...	757
Do. privies emptied ...	...	...	403
Do. pail closets emptied	...	...	43
Do. loads of refuse removed	...	...	2,491

C. TELFORD HAGUE, Sanitary Inspector.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the year 1913.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED.										Total Cases Notified in each Locality. (e.g. Parish or Ward) of the District.					Total Cases removed to Hospital.				
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.							1 North Ward.	2 South Ward.	3 East Ward.	4 West Ward.	5 Central Ward.							
		Under 1	1 and under 5 years	5 and under 15 years	15 and under 25 years	25 and under 45 years	45 and under 65 years	65 and upw'rds												
Small-pox																				
Cholera (C) Plague (P)																				
Diphtheria (including Membranous croup)																				
Erysipelas	10			1	1	2	4	2							2	2	1	6	1	10
Scarlet fever	15	1	4	8	2									1	3	6			5	
Typhus fever																				
Enteric fever	1				1											1				
Relapsing fever (R) Continued fever (C)																				
Puerperal fever																				
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis																				
Poliomyelitis	1		1														1			
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	14			2	2	7	3							1	1	5	6		1	
Other forms of Tuberculosis	6			3	1	1	1							2	1	1	1		1	
Totals	47	1	5	14	7	10	8	2						4	7	15	13	8		10

Causes of, and Ages at Death during the Year 1913.

CAUSES OF DEATH.				Nett Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the district (a.)								Total Deaths whether of 'Residents' or 'Non-Residents' in Institutions in the district (b.)	
				All Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 2 years.	2 and under 5 years.	5 and under 15 years.	15 and under 25 years.	25 and under 45 years.	45 and under 65 years.		65 and upwards.
1				2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
All causes	{	Certified (c)	..	159	25	10	4	6	8	14	38	54	
		Uncertified	..	4	1						1	2	
1 Enteric Fever													
2 Small-pox													
3 Measles				3		1	1	1					
4 Scarlet Fever													
5 Whooping Cough													
6 Diphtheria and Croup													
7 Influenza				3					1		1	1	
8 Erysipelas													
9 Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)				6					2	1	3		4
10 Tuberculosis Meningitis ..				1				1					
11 Other Tuberculosis Diseases				7	2			1	3		1		1
12 Cancer, malignant disease..				11							5	6	2
13 Rheumatic Fever													
14 Meningitis				2	1		1						1
15 Organic Heart Disease ..				15							7	8	6
16 Bronchitis				15	6	3					1	5	1
17 Pneumonia (all forms) ..				10	3	2		1		4			1
18 Other diseases of respiratory organs													
19 Diarrhoea and Enteritis ..				11	3	3	2	1	1		1	1	1
20 Appendicitis and Typhlitis													
21 Cirrhosis of Liver				3									
21a Alcoholism				1						1			

Causes of, and Ages at Death during the Year 1913.—Continued.

[illegible]

INFANT MORTALITY.—1913. Nett Deaths from stated causes at
 various Ages under 1 Year of Age.

CAUSES OF DEATH					Under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	4 week and under 3 months	3 months and under 6 months	6 months and under 9 months	9 months and under 12 months	Total Deaths under 1 year
All causes { Certified. Uncertified.					5	1	1	1	8	5 1	4	2	6	25 1
Small-pox														
Chicken-pox						1			1					1
Measles														
Scarlet Fever														
Whooping-Cough														
Diphtheria and Croup														
Erysipelas														
Tuberculous Meningitis														
Abdominal Tuberculosis										1				1
Other Tuberculous Diseases													1	1
Meningitis (<i>not Tuberculous</i>)										1				1
Convulsions										1				1
Laryngitis														
Bronchitis										1	1	2	3	7
Pneumonia (all forms)													2	2
Diarrhœa								1	1	1	1			3
Enteritis														
Gastritis														
Syphilis											1			1
Rickets														
Suffocation, overlaying														
Injury at birth														
Atelectasis														
Congenital Malformations														
Premature birth					4				4					4
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus					1		1		2	1		1		4
Other Causes														
Totals					5	1	1	1	8	6	4	2	6	26

Nett Birth in the year {

legitimate 188

 illegitimate 9

Nett Deaths in the year {

legitimate infants 25

 illegitimate infants 1

Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1913 and previous Years.

YEAR	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS			TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT		TRANSFERABLE DEATHS.		NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.			
		Un- corrected Number	Nett		Number	Rate	of Non- residents registered in the District	of Resi- dents not registered in the District	Under 1 year of Age.		At all Ages.	
			Number	Rate					Number	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births	Number	Rate
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1908	10,060	219	219	21.7	181	17.9	27	4	23	105.0	158	15.7
1909	"	239	239	23.7	154	15.3	22	5	23	96.2	135	13.4
1910	"	213	213	21.7	144	14.3	23	3	23	107.9	124	12.3
1911	9,552	191	191	19.9	170	17.4	31	8	30	157.0	147	15.3
1912	"	224	224	23.4	163	19.0	34	7	11	49.1	136	14.2
1913	9,552	246	279	20.6	183	19.1	31	11	26	130.6	163	17.0

Area of District in acres (land and inland water) 3,120

Total population at all ages	..	..	9,552	}	At Census 1911
Number of inhabited houses	..	..	2,183		(cf. Census, Vol. V.
Average number of persons per house	..	..	4.4		

